

ASSOCIATION of COUNTY/CITY INFORMATION SYSTEMS

August 4, 2000

Mr. Joe Dear, Chair
Information Services Board
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-40002

Dear Mr. Dear:

The Association of County/City Information Systems (ACCIS) is writing this letter to organized governmental associations in order to help increase awareness of the Washington State's Digital Government Plan. This plan, written by Washington State's Department of Information Services and supported by Governor Gary Locke, provides an exciting technological vision for enhancing government efficiency and capability, while significantly improving our customer's experience with government functions.

ACCIS is a professional organization composed of the chief information systems officers from many of Washington State's Cities and Counties. The ACCIS organization routinely meets and partners with Washington State department and agency technology communities to enhance our individual efforts. We support the vision of Digital Government and are encouraging your organizations support and involvement as well. We believe your participation is essential to help us address issues critical to the evolution of Digital Government in our state and to help promote consistent approaches that will enable our citizens to take advantage of these new resources.

Digital Government is more than just implementing electronic commerce applications; it also provides information to the public, such as land records, while addressing issues of privacy. Digital Government provides the ability to personalize government, so that our systems can anticipate the needs of the citizen and then walk them through the process of obtaining the service they require. In short, Digital Government gives us the ability to truly re-invent government into the appearance of "one" government.

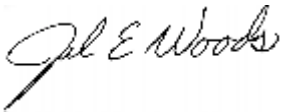
To achieve the ultimate vision of Digital Government, it is extremely important that all political subdivisions of government work together to ensure our electronic systems can communicate and pass information. Personalizing government cannot function without this inter-operation. Many of the critical steps to obtain the goal of inter-operation of our multiple systems are already in place. An Inter-Governmental Network has been

constructed and is being used today to transfer vehicle registration, criminal history, court information, birth information, and health alerts. Standards for operation of the Inter-Governmental Network are in place to ensure integrity of information transfer. It is clear that government at all levels will continue to build upon these investments in the future. Current issues of discussion are security, privacy, web standards, and architecture standards. The Inter-Governmental network is the backbone of Digital Government. As we move forward with defining and implementing a digital face to government in our state, your perspectives and support are critical.

ACCIS is interested in supporting the Digital Government plan and offers our assistance in understanding the many challenges, both legislative and technical, that stand in the way of implementing this vision. It is our opinion that Digital Government cannot be successful without all levels of government working together. We will be proposing that formal arrangements be considered for local government participation in further definition, development and execution of Digital Government strategies.

Please feel free to contact the undersigned to help us better understand how our organizations can work together on these topics or with any questions you may have concerning ACCIS or Digital Government.

ACCIS Officers



Joel Woods, City of Lynnwood
President



Michael Almvig, Skagit County
State and Local Subcommittee Chair



Jim Wilcox, Thurston County
Vice-President



Brenda Cooper, City of Longview
Public Access Subcommittee Chair



Dale Cantrell, Adams County
Secretary/Treasurer